

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION (MHEC)

16.816 JOHN R. JUSTICE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Program Description: The John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program provides for the payment of eligible educational loans for Maryland State and Federal public defenders and prosecutors who agree to remain employed as public defenders and prosecutors for at least three years. Eligible recipients must sign a service agreement each year of their three year service obligation to receive a payment under this program. Failure to fulfill the employment commitment requires repayment of the full amount received by the recipient to the U.S. Department of Justice. The Office of Student Financial Assistance of the Maryland Higher Education Commission administers the John R. Justice Program for the State of Maryland.

Program Supported/Population Served: Maryland State and Federal public defenders and prosecutors.

Formula/Grant Description: Under the auspices of the John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act of 2008, the Bureau of Justice Statistics provides a minimum base allocation for each state, territory, and the District of Columbia in the amount of \$50,000. The base amount is enhanced, funds permitting, by an amount proportional to that state's or territory's share of the national population.

64.110 ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Program Description: The Maryland Higher Education Commission serves as the State-approving agency for veteran's educational benefits. Under a Professional Services Contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Commission receives Federal administrative funds to ascertain the qualifications and grant approval of educational institutions and/or training establishments to furnish courses of education. The following types of programs may be approved by the Commission for education or training under the Montgomery GI Bill: (1) courses at colleges and universities leading to associate, bachelor or graduate degrees, and accredited independent study; (2) courses leading to a certificate or diploma from business, technical or vocational schools; (3) correspondence courses; (4) flight training, if veteran holds a private pilot license and meets the medical requirements upon beginning the training program; (5) State-approved teacher certification programs; (6) noncredit preparatory courses necessary for admission to a college; and (7) licensing and certification tests.

Formula/Grant Description: Under a Professional Services Contract, the Maryland Higher Education Commission, serving as the State Approving Agency for Veterans Education Benefits,

is reimbursed for reasonable and necessary salary and travel expenses incurred in ascertaining the qualifications or educational institutions and/or training establishments to furnish courses of education.

Program Supported/Population Served: Veterans statewide

84.367 IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY STATE GRANTS

Program Description: The Maryland Higher Education Commission administers the higher education portion of the Every Student Succeeds Act, Title II Part A funds. MHEC distributes funds through a competitive grant process to higher education institutions and high need local education agency partnerships. These funds are used to support professional development activities in core academic subjects such that all Maryland students are taught by highly qualified teachers. Eligible professional development program participants include teachers, highly qualified paraprofessionals, and principals.

Formula/Grant Description: The Maryland Higher Education Commission receives 2.5 percent of the State's total Title II federal allocation.

Program Supported/Population Served: Professional development in core academic content areas for highly qualified paraprofessionals, teachers, and principals from high need local education agencies.

84.378A MARYLAND COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT

Program Description: The Higher Education Opportunity Act (Public Law 110-315) (HEOA), enacted on August 14, 2008 is the enabling legislation for this grant program. The Maryland Higher Education Commission partners with various non-profit organizations, higher education institutions and state agencies on initiatives that support both college access and success for low-income and underrepresented students. The matching requirement is one third of the total project costs. The State's One Step Away grant program is used as a match for the grant.

Grant/Formula Description: States receive funds based on the relative number of people between the ages of 5 and 17 and between the ages of 15 and 44 who are living at or below the federal poverty line.

Program Supported/Population Served: College access and success for low-income and underrepresented student populations in postsecondary education.

84.334S GAINING EARLY AWARENESS AND READINESS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Program Description: This discretionary grant program is designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. GEAR UP provides six-year grants to states and partnerships to provide services at high-poverty middle and high schools. GEAR UP grantees serve an entire cohort of students beginning no later than the seventh grade and follow the cohort through high school. GEAR UP funds are also used to provide college scholarships to low-income students. The Maryland State Department of Education, and MHEC as a partner, was awarded \$13 million over a six year period to support Maryland GEAR UP students. The College Preparation Intervention Program (CPIP) State grant program funds were included as part of the required match for this competitive federal grant.

Grant/Formula Description: The Maryland Higher Education Commission receives an annual partnership grant from the Maryland State Department of Education.

Program Supported/Population Served: GEAR UP cohort students at high-poverty middle and high school.

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